

Remarks

Claims 1-12 were rejected under §112, second paragraph, and have been amended as to form, bearing in mind the criticisms in the Official Action. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The Official Action indicates that the application as filed did not include a drawing. This is not correct. As noted on the "DO/EO WORK SHEET - DATE - 13 SEPT 2006," the application as filed included a drawing, which was received in the Office. Further, the certified copy of the priority application filed on the filing date of the present application included this drawing. Further still, the cover page of the PCT Publication WO 2004/092611 filed on the filing date of the present application included the same drawing. The specification refers to this drawing in paragraph 0014 of the published application, which erroneously omits the drawing. Since the drawing was made of record, withdrawal of the request for a drawing is respectfully requested. Note also that the claims have been amended to refer to a fabric, such as shown in the drawing.

Claims 1-12 were rejected as unpatentable over ZENS 4,172,456. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

ZENS does not disclose the fabric with the two knit structures claimed. Indeed, the reference does not disclose or

suggest the claimed combination of special stitches in this order in the fabric with their respective functions (two different compression strengths, not graduated strengths with maximum on the ankle). Thus, one of skill in the art would not find it obvious to provide a fabric with these two knit structures.

New claim 13 has been added that further defines the floating mesh pattern (support in paragraphs 0018-22 of the published application). ZENS does not disclose this pattern and thus the new claim further avoids the rejection.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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